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DETAILED ACTION

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- 1. The request filed on March 03, 2008 for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on patent application 10/630,144 is acceptable and an RCE has been established. Every Independent claims 1, 13, 14, 28, 35, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 53 are amended. Claims 9, 22, 33, 41, 48, 51, 54-56 are canceled. Thus claims 1-8, 10-21, 23-32, 34-40, 42-47, 49-50, 52-53 and 57-59 are pending/examined.
- 2. As the result of amendment filed to claims 1, 14, 28, 35 and 50, the 112 rejection set forth in the pervious office action is overcome and the rejection is withdrawn.

Priority

- 3. This application does not claim priority of an application.
 Therefore, the effective filling data for the subject matter defined in the pending claims of this application is July 30, 2003.
- 4. Applicant's representative **Michael G. Verga Registration No: 39,410** and Examiner conducted telephone interview on December 5, 2007 and subsequently on February 22 2008. During the interview all independent claims were discussed with respect to the art on the record. (Subject matter of the interview conducted on February 22, 2008 has been attached.)

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Allowable Subject Matter

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As the result of amendment filed,

- All independent claims 1, 13, 14, 28, 35, 45, 47, 49, 50
 and 53 are amended.
- 5. <u>Claims</u> 1-8, 10-21, 23-32, 34-40, 42-47, 49-50, 52-53 and 57-59 are allowed.
- 6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- 7. Referring to the pervious independent claims 1, 14, 28, 35, 45 and 50 the art on the record namely Butler discloses most of the limitation of the claim before it is amended.

 For instance, with respect to the previous independent claims, Butler discloses a method for using a plurality of errordetectable key fragments of [figure 2, ref. Num "210" and "212"] an original license key string [figure 2, ref. Num "202/206", password], for authorizing use of software comprising:

 fragmenting the original key string into a plurality of key fragments; [figure 2, ref. Num "210" and "212"; column 5, lines 15-17] calculating, for each key fragment, corresponding check data [figure 2, ref. Num "Index"]; and combining each key fragment with its corresponding check data to form said errordetectable key fragments. [Figure 2, ref. "214"]

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However after the claims are amended, the prior art on the record namely **Butler**, does not disclose/teach elements of the limitation of the independent claims such as features that have been added with amendment.

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches or suggests a method of for using a plurality of error-detectable key fragments of an original key string for authorizing use of software **including the above added limitation to each independent claims** with the combination of other limitation recited in respective independent claims.

For the reasons provided above, the independent claims 1, 13, 14, 28, 35, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 53 and 19 are found to be novel and are allowed.

8. The dependent claims which are dependent on the independent claims 1, 13, 14, 28, 35, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 53 and 19 being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samson B Lemma whose telephone number is 571-272-3806. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am --4: 30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BARRON JR GILBERTO can be reached on. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/S. B. L./ Samson B Lemma Examiner, Art Unit 2132 03/14/2008

/Gilberto Barron Jr/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2132